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POPE TO SEND SPECIAL ENVOY TO ARGENTINA, CHILE

FY221111Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1044 GMT 22 Dec 78 FY

[Text] Vatican City, 22 Dec (AFP)--The pope announced today that he will send his special representative to Argentina and Chile to examine with the interested parties the possibilities for an honorable and peaceful solution to the Beagle Channel issue.

EEC APPEALS TO ARGENTINA, CHILE FOR PEACE

FY211431Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Dec 78 FY

[Text] The EEC has urged Chile and Argentina to find a peaceful solution to their border dispute. This appeal is included in a letter delivered in Bonn to the Chilean and Argentine ambassadors, but a copy of the letter was issued last night by the FRG Embassy in Santiago.

The joint declaration issued by the nine countries comprising the EEC community states that they have witnessed with great concern the development of the border dispute between Chile and Argentina.

Furthermore, the declaration adds that the Chilean and Argentine foreign ministers have not been able to achieve an agreement on the procedure which would lead to a peaceful solution of the controversy.

The declaration states that the EEC governments feel compelled to warn Chile and Argentina that they are convinced that any violent action would have serious consequences on the two countries and on their relations with other countries.

Moreover, the declaration adds that experience has shown that military actions in one specific region tend to become persistent hostilities resulting in more destructive consequences. The EEC governments, therefore, urge the governments of Argentina and Chile to avoid taking sudden measures in this complex situation before exhausting all possible means and procedures leading to a peaceful solution of the conflict.

The EEC states that it is aware that the two countries consider themselves to be part of the Western world, and that they consider this cultural and moral tie to be a further motive for making this appeal.

MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETS TWICE ON 21 DECEMBER

FY212043Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2025 GMT 21 Dec 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (NA)--It was reported a few minutes ago at government house that President Jorge Rafael Videla began a meeting with the Military Committee in the army command headquarters at 1500. The committee already met this morning from 0030 to 1000 to approve the answer of Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor to a note sent by his Chilean counterpart, Hernan Cubillos, regarding the southern border conflict.

TEXT OF PASTOR REPLY TO CUBILLOS LETTER

FY211623Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1535 GMT 21 Dec 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (NA)--The presidential public information secretariat reported at noon today that Maj Gen Carlos Washington Pastor (ret), the minister of foreign affairs and worship, sent his Chilean colleague, Hernan Cubillos, an answer to the note which he sent Pastor yesterday. The text follows:

"Buenos Aires, 21 December 1978

"Mr Minister: I have received your note dated yesterday in which your excellency, invoking the meaning of the Christmas holidays, recalls the desire of the Chilean and Argentine peoples to live in peace, brotherhood and hope.

"I fully agree with these desires, firmly convinced--as I always have been--of the shared hope of Argentines and Chileans to prosper in harmony and brotherhood.

"However, Mr Minister, it is not easy to understand how the wishes and hopes expressed in your note can be reconciled with the proposals also included in it. These in no way modify the situation in which we found ourselves on 12 December past, which motivated the suspension of our talks.

"In effect, from the correspondence exchanged between our governments since 2 November, we can conclude that the framework on which he had agreed to handle this phase of the negotiations demanded the prior determination of the procedure which the aid of a friendly government would follow during the negotiations, and its effect.

"The position now taken by Chile, as presented in the note I received, continues to show a withdrawal from that agreement, and, therefore, makes it impossible to determine the two points which I have just mentioned, which are basic prerequisites for Argentina.

"Without them, the procedure we agreed to will not allow us to find the definitive formula which, while safeguarding peace and the basic rights of our peoples, will mean a just and equitable solution to the dispute which separates us.

"The Argentine Government has repeatedly demonstrated a conduct in accordance with its firm will to find a solution such as the one I have just described. In this way, it has invariably refrained from carrying out actions or measures in the disputed area which would conspire against efforts to overcome the problem.

"Unfortunately, Chile did not take the same attitude. From the beginning, and despite repeated appeals made by my country, it took measures which changed the de facto situation in the disputed zone and dictated norms which were clearly contrary to law, through which it intends to support claims to insular and maritime areas under Argentine sovereignty.

"Despite this situation, the Argentine Government, giving proof of its unchanged will to negotiate, continued to seek reasonable agreements which were in accordance with the interests of both countries.

"As your excellency will remember, the Argentine Government, after it saw the failure of the persistent efforts to reach an agreement which it made during the arduous negotiations of Commission No 2, sought to settle the controversy bilaterally--with the help of a friendly government--since it was aware of the priority and imperative need of insuring a just and lasting solution for the Argentine and Chilean peoples.

"In this spirit my government decided, in view of the proposal to hold a meeting between the foreign ministers, to invite your excellency to come to Buenos Aires. During the meeting which followed, Argentina proposed that the aid of the Holy See be requested. This proposal, which was accepted by your excellency, is based on our country's full and constant confidence in and respect for the holy father.

Precisely for this reason, Argentina also tried to determine exactly the scope and form to which the mediation process should be adjusted, which would spare his holiness from finding himself confronted with a persistent disagreement between the parties. Chile's unyielding stand and lack of flexibility again hindered these efforts from leading to a positive result.

"My government laments not having found the echo it expected.

"Your excellency's note, which persists in the position taken by the Chilean Government, does not permit the finding of appropriate formulas to guarantee the success of the negotiating process.

"I remain, your excellency, yours truly."

UN NOTE CHARGES ILLEGAL DEPLOYMENT OF CHILEAN FORCES

FY212341Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2230 GMT 21 Dec 78 FY

[Text] United Nations (New York), 21 Dec (TELAM-ANSA)--Argentina stated today at the UN Security Council that Chile has carried out a number of illegal military actions which upset the balance of forces existing in the disputed Beagle Channel zone. These illegal Chilean measures should be a cause of concern for the international community, Enrique Ros, Argentine permanent representative to the United Nations, stated in a letter he delivered this afternoon to FRG Ambassador Rudiger von Wechmar, current president of the Security Council.

This was the second note sent by the Argentine Government to the UN Security Council in the past 7 days, and it again reiterated the threat to peace and international security posed by the deployment of Chilean military detachments equipped with artillery in some of the following islands: Freycinet, Herschel, Wollaston, Hornos, Deceit, Picton, Lennox and Nueva. The last three islands were granted to Chile by a decision dictated in May 1977 by the British Crown to demarcate Argentine and Chilean jurisdiction in the southern region of South America--a decision which was rejected by the Buenos Aires government on 25 January 1978.

Copies of the Argentine letter to the UN Security Council were immediately distributed to all 15 members of the council. An official version of the document, which does not state precisely which of the islands are involved in the military preparations attributed to the Santiago junta, will be released in the next few hours.

The note stressed that this military imbalance in the disputed zone has not passed unnoticed by the Argentine Government, and added that these actions lead to the belief that it is the intention (of the Chilean Government) to create situations which will jeopardize the development of direct negotiations and which may have repercussions on their outcome.

The letter added: The Argentine Republic, however, has abstained from adopting similar measures because of its respect for the process of the negotiations underway. The note added: Argentina deems it its duty to inform the Security Council of the circumstances surrounding this case, without detriment to its stated decision to continue direct negotiations with the Chilean Government.

The note reiterated, in fact, that the Argentine Government is willing to continue bilateral efforts to make it possible for the mediator proposed by Argentina (Pope John Paul II) and accepted by Chile to start acting as a mediator on mutually agreed terms.

I CORPS COMMANDER VISITS III CORPS UNITS

PY211731Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1436 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] San Rafael, Mendoza, 21 Dec (TELAM)--Maj Gen Guillermo Suarez Mason, commander of I Corps, remarked today: "I know what Argentina's rights in the Atlantic are, and they are not going to be lost." Suarez arrived in this city in order to inspect the garrison of the 101st Simon Bolivar Armored Regiment.

Suarez emphasized that there must be calm and confidence and readiness to maintain this line of conduct, no matter what the crisis or situation is, as the Argentines historically have always done.

Suarez arrived at the San Rafael airport, where he was greeted by Brig Gen Juan Pablo Saa, commander of the 8th mountain infantry brigade; air force Brig Gen Antonio Jose Crosetto, commander of the 5th air brigade based in Villa Mercedes, San Luis [Province, under the command of III Corps] and other high-ranking military chiefs.

Suarez also stressed the fact that the 101st regiment has a high degree of readiness, as well as modern vehicles and equipment which can be used in both mountainous and flat country.

Suarez Mason will remain in southern Mendoza Province inspecting garrisons [which are under the command of III Corps].

COMMUNIST PARTY BACKS REGIME ON BEAGLE DISPUTE

PY211628Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1504 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Dec (AFP)--The Argentine Communist Party [PCA] declared itself in favor of the government's just position in the southern border dispute which this country has with Chile. At the same time, the PCA launched a call for a large civilian assembly which, together with the armed forces, would analyze the problem and draft a collective and national position at a time when the country is facing a serious historical crossroads.

The PCA believes that the probable mediation of the Vatican in the conflict is positive, as is the active peaceful participation of the Catholic Church of the two countries and the recent speeches by Videla and Viola, referring to the Argentine president and the army chief and military junta member. On the other hand, the PCA assailed the leaders of the PRC (who) play an inauspicious role at the service of the United States in the Argentine-Chilean border conflict.

The PCA indicates that "we believe that the Argentine Government's position is just, and that in its defense of sovereignty, it is insisting on peaceful negotiations, never departing from them until the end, no matter how arduous or complex they may be."

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MALVINAS ISLANDS TALKS

PY211321Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text of communique issued simultaneously in London and Buenos Aires on 20 December]

[Text] Pursuant to the announcement made simultaneously by the Argentine and UK governments on 13 December 1978, the delegations of the two countries met in Geneva from 8-20 December 1978 for the third round of talks concerning the Malvinas, Georgias and southern Sandwich islands, in line with the points of reference announced on 26 April 1977.

The two delegations were headed by Argentine Foreign Relations Under Secretary Gualter Oscar Allara and UK Commonwealth Minister Ted Rowlands.

The talks between the two delegations took place in an atmosphere of positive spirits and all subjects included in the agenda of negotiations were discussed. The delegations reached a basic understanding regarding the guidelines for a system of cooperation for scientific research in the Georgias and southern Sandwich islands.

The parties agreed to continue discussing all pending issues during a meeting which will be held at the beginning of 1979. The date, site and level of the coming meeting will be arranged through diplomatic channels.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH BURMA

PY201937Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1438 GMT 20 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (TELAM)--Argentina and the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma have agreed to establish diplomatic relations, according to a communique simultaneously released today in Buenos Aires, at the UN headquarters in New York and in Rangoon.

The information released by the Foreign Ministry indicates that in 1975, through a joint communique, the two countries agreed to establish diplomatic relations, and that in order to implement it, the two countries agreed to name nonresident ambassadors. The communique adds that the Argentine Government proposed that the Argentine ambassador to Thailand, Tomas Alva Negri, be concurrent ambassador in Rangoon, a proposal which was accepted by Burma.

BRIEFS

BLACKOUT EXERCISE--A new blackout exercise will be carried out today. It will take place from 2100 to 2200 tonight and will affect the Esteban Echeverria suburb close to Ezeiza International Airport. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY]

PRESIDENT CALLS FOR PREPAREDNESS TO DEFEND SOVEREIGNTY

PY212101Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1449 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Cochabamba, Bolivia, 21 Dec (AFP)--Bolivian President David Padilla said here today that "we must be prepared to defend our sovereignty in the southern cone of the Americas." He aided: "We Bolivians advocate peace, but we want peace to be based on justice and respect for the legitimate rights of the people." He also said: "Our peaceful tradition is known in the world, but this does not mean that we must ignore the problems of our neighbors." Padilla made these remarks during a military ceremony.

PADILLA REITERATES GOAL OF HONEST ELECTIONS

PY211254Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Gen David Padilla, president of the military junta, has confirmed in Cochabamba that his government will keep its word of presiding over democratic and impartial elections. He added: The government has not committed itself to any political party, for the very reason of enabling it to conduct the whole electoral process in a lawful, clean and broadminded manner [words indistinct]. He asserted that the best way to guarantee democratic and open elections is to (?remain) neutral in the political field and avoid any commitment.

General Padilla was in Cochabamba yesterday, where he attended the closing ceremony of this year's classes at the military school. It was on that occasion that he made these important statements.

The president also referred to the present economic situation of the country. He said that there is a crisis, and that the coming year is important, since some decisions will be made to improve the situation. As is known, those measures do not include a devaluation of our currency, but they refer instead to the suppression of some expenditures and cuts which will be made in next year's budget.

In this connection, Finance Minister Wenceslao Alba warned that since the economic situation is delicate, it is necessary to take some measures which certainly would not affect the people [words indistinct].

COMIBOL MANAGER LEAVES FOR TALKS IN USSR

PY211409Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpt] Oscar Bonifaz, general manager of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL], has left for the Soviet Union, invited by the Soviet enterprise Mashinoeksport, contractor firm for the building and installation of the tin volatilization plant at La Palca, Potosi Department. During his stay in the Soviet Union, the top executive of the state mining enterprise will try to make progress in the talks regarding the building of the second COMIBOL volatilization plant, planned to be installed at Machacamarca, a town in Oruro Department.

The negotiations which Bonifaz will undertake in the Soviet Union will be complemented in January next year, when Eng Arturo Sahonero, COMIBOL technical manager, will visit Russia.

The COMIBOL manager will also try, during his talks, to (?reach) an agreement regarding the use of natural gas instead of fuel oil at the two plants.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE 'BEAGLE WAR'

PY220054Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2253 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 21 Dec (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira warned here today that the drama of a war will have consequences and traumas which in turn will create "a new reality in South America, and I hope this does not happen." The Brazilian foreign minister made this statement to local newsmen in commenting on the tense situation existing between Argentina and Chile as a result of their border dispute over the Beagle Channel in the southern tip of South America.

Questioned about the position Brazil would adopt if Peru [as received] and Chile eventually engage in a "Beagle war," the foreign minister stated that Brazil "has no nationl interest" to defend in this conflict. He reiterated Brazil's call for peace and its support for a negotiated harmonious solution to all controversies. He said: We have not thoroughly studied the subject, but any problem can obviously be solved through peaceful means." He added: "The drama of a war will not benefit any country. The consequences, wounds and traumas stemming therefrom will create a new reality in South America, and I hope this does not happen."

Asked if Brazil would adopt a more decisive position on this problem, Azeredo said that his country must adopt a basically persuasive attitude. He said: "The only thing that can be done if the conflict erupts is to have the OAS discuss all means to bring the two countries together. Yet, I hope we do not reach this point."

Azeredo da Silveira admitted that an incident may take place, that many things could happen, even by accident, "But I believe the problem can be basically solved through understanding."

CHILEAN COPPER ZINC SHIPMENTS SUSPENDED

PY211437Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0153 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santa Fe, Argentina, 20 Dec (AFP)--It was learned that the Chilean El Teniente mine has suspended its railroad shipments of copper and zinc to Brazil. The Chilean shipments were transported through the town of Socompa in Argentina at a rate of 10 carloads per week. The shipments arrived on railroad cars and were later transferred to special trucks in Ciudad de Parana (located on the Parana River off the coast of Santa Fe) to be transported to the Brazilian border town of Paso de los Libres. Once the copper and zinc shipments were unloaded, the Chilean railroad cars returned to their country filled with merchandise and fuel. Exports totaled about 5,000 tons per year.

ECONOMY MINISTER REVIEWS 1978 ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

PY211406Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0407 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 20 Dec (AFP)--It was reported here today that Brazil's gross domestic product during 1978 rose to $184 billion, and per capita income during the same period totaled $1,580. This information was disclosed by Brazil's planning minister, Joao Paulo dos Reis Velloso, in a report presented to the members of the Brizilian Economic Development Council.

In the report, the minister analyzed the implementation of the second national development plan for the period 1975 to 1979. He stated that the results achieved up to December 1978 "are pretty positive."

He also said that the government of Gen Ernesto Geisel, which began on 15 March 1974, carried out an economic policy adapted to the world crisis caused by the oil price increase in 1973 which allowed the nation to continue growing but at rates lower than those of previous years. At present, the annual increase of the GDP is at 5 percent, as registered in 1978. He emphasized that that policy was designed to avoid massive unemployment and the disorganization of the nation's private sector, in order to continue with social development and political relaxation.

The minister said that the main goal of the second national development plan is the consolidation of a neocapitalistic system in the country. Reis Velloso added that during this period the nation's private firms carried out an important role in the economy by executing several important projects. He also said that private companies hold the majority in the capital goods production sector, while the nationalization rate in the iron and steel industry, electricity, naval construction and basic goods sector increased considerably.

He attributed the growth of inflation in 1978 by more than 40 percent to the drought which devastated the southern and central regions of the country during the first quarter of this year. The drought caused the loss of 13 million tons of agricultural products and a reduction of $2 billion in this sector's exports.

He stated that during 1975 and 1978 there was a considerable amount of social progress in the country, despite the fact that the distribution of income continues to be unsatisfactory. Reis Velloso emphasized that Brazil suffers regional imbalances, and the number of people enduring absolute poverty is still large.

Brazil's gross domestic product increased from $132.7 billion in 1973 to $184 billion in 1978, while per capita income increased from $1,308 to $1,580 during the same period. Brazil's population was 101,400,000 inhabitants in 1973 and 116,400,000 in 1978, which represents an annual growth rate of 2.7 percent.

Industrial production during the same period increased 42 percent. The agricultural and livestock industry grew 26 percent, and the population's consumption grew 35 percent.

Finally, Minister Reis Velloso pointed out that the priority goals for the next few years will be urban development, an increase in food production and reduction of prices for low-income families, the consolidation of the policy for the rationalization of fuel consumption, and the gradual elimination of absolute poverty.

BIDS INVITED FOR ITAIPU'S ELECTRICAL CONVERSION

PY201718Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0215 GMT 20 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 19 Dec--(TELAM)--The Itaipu binational enterprise today opened a $500 million international bid for the equipment for the conversion of cycles for the turbines to be installed in the dam Brazil and Paraguay are building on the Parana River. The number of nine turbines indicates that the original plans, having a total of 18 turbines, were not altered in the bid call. An Itaipu technician explained that the installation of two more turbines is still under discussion, and therefore the bid call was carried out as planned so as not to delay the work schedule.

GATT NEGOTIATOR GIVES VIEWS ON NEW CODE

FY211244Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Dec 78 p 26 PY

[Excerpt] The damage clause and the differential treatment for developing countries have been introduced into the final text of the subsidies and compensatory measures code which will begin to be written in Geneva by representatives of the United States, the European Economic Community, Japan, Canada, Sweden, Brazil, India and Mexico.

According to Francisco Dornelles, president of the commission for international taxation studies of the Finance Ministry and the chief Brazilian negotiator at the GATT meeting in Geneva, the code will have six chapters, which will be completely written by this Saturday, and it will then be submitted to an analysis during January before being sent to GATT signatory countries.

Dornelles said that, in the best supposition, the code will go into effect in May 1979, after having been ratified by a majority of GATT member countries. A less optimistic supposition is that the code will go into effect only by the end of next year. At any rate, Dornelles believes that Brazil will only sign the code after the United States does so, because if the United States does not, the code will have no value for most of the countries which do the bulk of their trade with the U.S. market.

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES PLANS TO SEND TROOPS TO LEBANON

PY220026Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2020 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 21 Dec (AFP)--Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira denied here today that the Brazilian Government plans to send troops to southern Lebanon. A report to this effect was published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-'ANBA', which added that the Brazilian troops would replace the Iranian forces which make up the UN international force in Lebanon.

Azeredo da Silveira said that Brazil, like every UN member country, had received an invitation to this effect, but turned it down because it has already exhausted its quota for participating in missions of this nature. The foreign minister reported that Brazilian troops have already participated in UN forces in the Gaza Strip (Middle East), in the Congo and in Kashmir (India).

BRIEFS

BRAZILIAN BONDS ABROAD--Brazil has issued bonds worth $940 million abroad in 1978. The last $75-million bond package was issued in Frankfurt on 14 December. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Dec 78 p 24 PY]

STEEL PRODUCTION UP--During the January-November period Brazil produced 10,944,300 tons of steel, an increase of 7.6 percent compared with same period last year. The production of iron sponge and cast iron, however, has declined by 22 percent and 2.2 percent. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 8 Dec 78 p 18 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER: ARGENTINE NOTE DOES NOT DESERVE REPLY

PY212323Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2215 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Dec (LATIN)--The Chilean Government stated today that the negative Argentine answer to Pope John Paul II's being mediator in the border conflict between the two countries in the southern part of the hemisphere is "an implicit threat," and therefore, for now it will refrain from answering it. Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos added that the answer seems to mean the following: "It rejects the mediation of the pope, closes the doors to the means of a peaceful solution to the controversy, and carries an implicit threat."

Cubillos added: "In view of this situation, we do not want our answer to serve Argentina in justifying other attitudes. Therefore, we do not believe this note deserves an answer." He added that Chile has informed the UN Security Council and the OAS permanent council about the Argentine attitude. The text of the statement delivered by Foreign Minister Cubillos states:

I believe that the Argentine answer, made unusually quickly, calls for profound consideration inside and outside Chile. The Chilean Government has the habit of thinking seriously before stating its official positions. Therefore, we will take time to answer, where appropriate, the unusual charges and evaluations contained in the Argentine note.

I want to state, however, that for Chile, the spirit of its note sent yesterday remains alive and puts pressure on responsible consciences. I would now say, as an explanation to public opinion, that the Argentine note received today, in simple terms, means the following: It rejects the mediation of the pope, closes the doors to a peaceful solution of the controversy, and carries an implicit threat. In view of this situation, we do not want our answer to serve Argentina in justifying other attitudes. Therefore, we do not believe this note deserves an answer.

We believe that the international community understands quite well our calm attitude and knows quite well the reasons for that attitude. Nevertheless, today we have sent "information notes" to the UN Security Council and the OAS as an answer to the note submitted to them by Argentina a few days ago. The contrast between the two notes and between the two attitudes is so obvious that we do not need to engage in polemics or make comments.

I also want to say that the request we made yesterday is still valid by virtue of the Holy See's action, communicated to us through our ambassador in Rome, consisting of its willingness to send a mission for peace and rapprochement to Santiago and Buenos Aires. Chile has immediately accepted without any reservation this noble gesture of the Holy See, which we deeply appreciate.

Therefore, we are calmly waiting for those who precipitated the events to regain their reason. Chile is not afraid of submitting its positions to anyone. Only those who do not have the same confidence and are wielding the threat of force will historically be the only ones responsible for the series of mistakes they are committing.

PRESIDENT PINOCHET HOPES TO VISIT BEAGLE CHANNEL BASE

PY211424Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0215 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Dec (LATIN)--President Augusto Pinochet said here today that if there is enough time he will probably visit the Puerto Williams navy base located in the Beagle Channel.

Answering journalists, he said that he will be very busy learning about regional affairs in Magallanes, and that he has little time to do this. General Pinochet said that in addition to Punta Arenas, he will visit Porvenir, Bahia Laredo, Cerro Sombrero, Punta Catalina and Puerto Nacales. The president will leave for the southern region in the early hours of December 25 and will return on 28 December.

GENERAL SAYS NATION WILL NEVER ACCEPT 'AMPUTATION'

PY211350Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1248 GMT 21 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Dec (AFP)--Gen Luis Ramirez, [director of the National Security Academy], without mentioning the Chilean-Argentine dispute over the Beagle Channel, warned here today that "Chile will never accept an amputation of its territory."

Ramirez, who spoke during a ceremony at the National Security Academy, emphasized that "a son of this land could never accept an amputation of our territory, and he would have to react without hesitating in the face of any attempt against the spiritual essence of the nation."

CHURCH SAYS MORE DECOMPOSED BODIES FOUND

PY201458Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0203 GMT 20 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Casablanca, Chile, 19 Dec (AFP)--Santiago Auxiliary Bishop Jorge Hourton reported today in a Santiago court the finding of two bodies in similar conditions to those found in Lonquen. According to the charge, this find was made this morning in the Cuesta Barriga sector, located 40 km from Santiago on the road to Valparaiso.

The judge went to the site of the discovery this afternoon, and it was learned that the human remains date from a similar time as those found in Lonquen.

Three weeks ago the Chilean Catholic Church reported the finding of several bodies in a mine shaft in the area of Lonquen, located 50 km south of Santiago, and the Chilean courts appointed a special judge to investigate the case.

BODIES DISCOVERED IN MINE MAY HAVE DIED FOLLOWING COUP

PY210242Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2354 GMT 20 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, 20 Dec (AFP)--The Chilean Government admitted today the possibility that the undetermined number of bodies found in an abandoned mine could be persons who died after the 1973 military coup.

In a communique released today, the Interior Ministry referred to the discovery of human bodies in the zone of Curacavi, 50 km north of here, and to those discovered in an abandoned mine in Lonquen, 50 km south of here. The note states that the government does not discount the possibility that in the struggle it had to wage after 11 September 1973 to repel the attacks of armed groups and to defeat an organized subversion which reached the proportions of civil war, persons belonging to this latter group could have died without being properly identified.

The government stated that the number of victims is not significant considering the serious problem that was faced, adding that in any case, the number of victims should be similar to that suffered by the armed and security forces--that is, over 500.

GOVERNMENT DECREES NEW MINIMUM WAGE

PA211215Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2128 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 20 Dec (AFP)--In view of the failure of the talks with labor leaders and employers, the Colombian Government today decreed minimum wage increases of 115 pesos ($2.80) and 105 pesos ($2.55) for the urban sectors with greater and lesser development, respectively.

The salary was 88 pesos a day up to today. The labor centrals had demanded an increase of at least 50 percent of that figure.

The employers had offered only 100 pesos a day and, in view of the disagreement, the executive branch decided to increase the minimum wage by decree.

According to spokesmen of the labor organizations, they will reject the increases officially announced today.

LABOR LEADERS PRAISE TURBAY ON WAGE INCREASE

PA220023Y Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] The Union of Workers of Colombia [UTC] and the Confederation of Workers of Colombia [CTC] today praised the efforts of President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala in increasing the minimum wage and agreed that it has been the biggest increase given by the government.

Tulio Cuevas and Manuel Felipe Hurtado of the UTC and CTC, respectively, reaffirmed their intention to continue their labor policies, maintaining that although the labor sector needs a higher income, the government's decision to increase the minimum wage according to the terms decreed yesterday entails the highest increase decreed by any government in this field.

Referring to the decree, UTC President Tulio Cuevas said: In looking at the statistics on salary increases in the past years, we must conclude that the increase decreed yesterday by the government is not exactly what the workers wanted due to the very high cost of basic necessities at present. But we must recognize that percentage-wise, the government has effected the largest increase when compared to those of other administrations. Anyway, I must acknowledge the efforts of the labor minister and especially those of the president of the republic. I am sure that if we had found more understanding and fair treatment in the management sector, we would have obtained the minimum requested by the UTC. Nevertheless, we hope that President Turbay's policy of reconciliation will continue with the best of success. He will have our cooperation in regard to the labor code reforms, a true and genuine social security reform, the family compensation banks and the many other things contained in the memorandum presented to the president.

On his part, CTC President Manuel Felipe Hurtado said: The fact that workers' demands were not met does not mean that progress was not made.

BRIEFS

GUERRILLA HOLDUP--Bogota, 16 Dec (EFE)--Four guerrillas have held up the Venezuelan culture center in northern Bogota and made off with some office equipment after painting slogans on the wall. The guerrillas left a note in the center claiming they belong to the Red Guard, whose slogan is "Arms for the Workers." [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0010 GMT 17 Dec 78 PA]

REASONS BEHIND GOVERNMENT MINISTER'S DISMISSAL DISCUSSED

PA211526Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] The Supreme Council of Government unexpectedly removed Government Minister Gen Bolivar Jarrin and Police Chief Gen Alberto Villamarin Ortiz from office with a supreme decree issued at 2000 yesterday.

The dismissals were unexpected since the Council of Ministers unanimously supported the actions of Gen Bolivar Jarrin as government minister in the last cabinet meeting on 12 December. Jarrin was criticized by Populist candidate Jaime Roldos, the EXPRESO newspaper of Guayaquil and some political parties which asked for his resignation. They charged that he was unable to find the leaders of terrorist attacks, particularly those involved in the attack on political leader Abdon Calderon Munoz. Minister Jarrin Cahuenas was appointed government minister in June 1976 to replace Gen Richelieu Levoyer. General Jarrin directed virtually the entire legal reorganization of the state undertaken by the military government.

His replacement, Rear Adm Victor Hugo Garces, has been secretary general of public administration since January 1976, when the government changed hands. The new officials will be sworn in today.

In the past few days, former Minister Jarrin Cahuenas personally took command of the investigations of the attack against former presidential candidate Abdon Calderon Munoz, announcing his intention to speed up the murder investigations. The relatives of the late political leader, Abdon Calderon Munoz, objected on several occasions to the behavior of the government minister. Presidential and vice presidential candidates for the Concentration of Popular Forces and Popular Democracy, Jaime Roldos and Oswaldo Hurtado, publicly asked for the dismissal of Jarrin Cahuenas, asserting that his presence in the ministry was no guarantee of a return to constitutional status.

OFFICIAL EXPLAINS IMPORTANCE OF ANDEAN RESERVE FUND

PA202333Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The creation of the Andean Reserve Fund, in which the five member countries of the Andean group are participating, is an important advance along the path of Andean integration. During the ceremony opening the first assembly of the Andean Reserve Fund, Ecuadorean Dr Rafael Garcia Velasco, coordinator of the Cartagena agreement board, said: [Begin recording] The Andean Reserve Fund has emerged as a specific demonstration of the member countries' desire to consolidate and strengthen the integration process with the object of reducing the (?instability of their external sectors) and guaranteeing their economic growth. It clearly shows that the Andean countries' integration and development are based on their internal, joint and solidary efforts to decrease dependence and guarantee a growing autonomy in their future development. [end recording]

The Andean Reserve Fund has been created with an initial capital of $240 million. Colombia, Peru and Venezuela joined the fund with a contribution of $60 million each, while Bolivia and Ecuador did so with $30 million each.

Regarding the importance and the objectives of the fund, Dr Rafael Garcia Velasco said: [Begin recording] Through the main objective of supporting the balance of payments, the fund will work so that the adjustments the member countries must make in their external sectors will be made more gradually.

In this way, they will be able to more effectively apply the economic policies to solve the problems that give rise to the external imbalance. With its own capital of $240 million and its capacity to receive resources from third parties and receive contributions through special funds, the new Andean entity will be able to directly and substantially support the solution of the member countries' payments problems. By contributing to the maintenance of the importing capacity, the fund can also facilitate access by the member countries to additional financing for investment projects, and the development of their subregional trade. An important aspect which must be stressed is that the Andean Reserve Fund will work so that the balance of payments difficulties of the member countries will not affect the imports from the other member countries and thus decrease their levels of activity. This will facilitate the fulfillment of the commitments established in the Cartagena agreement, particularly in the program of [word indistinct], the correct application of the common external tariff and the adequate development of the sectorial programs for industrial development. [end recording]

The Andean Reserve Fund will be able to grant loans higher than the ones the International Monetary Fund grants to the Andean group countries. The resources will be administered by the member countries, and the credits will be granted in accordance with the criteria and conditions decided by the members.

DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE ORGANIZED

PA212305Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2224 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 20 Dec (AFP)--It was learned today that a committee for the defense of democracy, which is willing to fight so that the constitutional normalization programmed by the Ecuadorean Armed Forces can continue without interruptions, is operating here and includes such figures as former President Galo Palaza. According to Plaza, "It seeks to fight powerful, active and established groups intent on foiling the state's juridical restructuring plan."

The former president told the Guaraquil newspaper EL TELEGRAFO that now that the final stage of the political process is about to begin, it is time to watch over the fulfillment of the program for the restoration of constitutional order. Plaza said that the committee "will help guide citizens along the path that is to be followed and will confront any threat against it."

He then recalled the constant public manifestations aimed at foiling the constitutional plan and referred to the exceptional campaign unleashed to annul the 15 January referendum. There were other developments later, which culminated in September with the statements made by Rafael Arizaga Vega, former Supreme Electoral Tribunal president, who confirmed that electoral fraud had been committed during the 16 July elections. Plaza also noted that at a certain point the new electoral tribunal declared itself to be unqualified to proclaim the electoral results and thus also endangered the restoration plan until the crisis was finally resolved.

Just as the military government is firmly determined to complete the process and turn power over on 10 August 1979, the Ecuadorean majority is also determined to see this process fulfilled, Plaza said.

HERRERA DISCUSSES INTEGRATION, OIL, TIES WITH COLOMBIA

PA201459Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 18 Dec 78 pp 10-A, 14-A PA

[Interview with Venezuelan President-elect Luis Herrera Campins at his home in Caracas, date not specified, by special correspondent Carlos Alberto Rueda]

[Excerpts] [Question] What will be the most important aspect of your administration's international policy?

[Answer] The Venezuelan Constitution establishes that the search for Latin American integration is a national objective. Vigorous effort should thus be devoted to this complex aspect. Personally, I feel particularly committed to this integration for several reasons. For many years I was secretary general of the Christian Democratic Organization of Latin America and as such increased my knowledge of the political, economic and cultural problems of the continent. In this way I strengthened my deep conviction that history asks of us Latin Americans a constant increase in solidarity and an expanded search for ways to join efforts and unite our determination and possibilities. During Rafael Caldera's administration the government had a very clear policy to this effect, in addition to which came the view that the young nations of the English- and French-speaking Caribbean were part of the regional union. Latin American integration, as the fundamental historic objective of our continent, will have to be the first foreign policy priority of the government over which I will preside starting in March.

[Question] Mention has been made of a return to the situation in Venezuela before it nationalized its petroleum. In this regard what are your plans for the Orinoco strip (a petroleum deposit which is estimated to contain 70 billion barrels of heavy petroleum)? Do you have plans to begin its exploitation?

[Answer] We must be conscious of the fact that nationalization is a process which must be completed with actions in the immediate future. My government will assume full responsibility for taking those steps. For this it is necessary to seek a broad agreement, a wide consensus open to all democratic political groups of Venezuela which will not constitute a compromise or struggle but the product of a patriotic concurrence. That is why I emphasized consensus in my government program for petroleum and petrochemistry. The Orinoco oil strip, because of the great volume of hydrocarbons it appears to contain, because of the impact it will have on the nation's future development, and because of the technical problems entailed in the production and refining of its crude, will require comprehensive decisions in the years to come. The great challenges of the strip are related to the development of a more appropriate technology for the production of the hydrocarbons and their subsequent refining. Exploration in the Orinoco oil belt as well as of the traditional basins and the continental shelf will be sought to increase our proven reserves.

[Question] Regarding the continental shelf, an unavoidable topic in this interview you are so kindly granting EL ESPECTADOR of Bogota, what about the delimitation of the marine and submarine areas with Colombia in the Gulf of Venezuela? And this brings to mind a fear of ours: We remember that during the Caldera administration his foreign minister, Calvani, one of his closest advisers in international policy, conducted an uninterrupted series of negotiations which at a given moment reached a stalemate, first with the Carlos Lleras Restrepo administration and then with the Pastrana Borrero administration. Might these negotiations deadlock again or do you think international arbitration should be sought?

[Answer] First, I must explain that during the Caldera administration, when Calvani was foreign minister, much progress was made in the negotiations. I said so several times. The question is not an easy one because we must have a national consensus, in both Venezuela and Colombia, so the agreements will be fair to both parties. [paragraph continues]

Now then, I have said repeatedly that I feel we have not reached this consensus. I propose to continue bilateral talks on the marine and submarine demarcation. It is not an easy matter, but I am optimistic because I know that both nations sincerely want to reach a fair agreement. In these and any other matters affecting Venezuelan-Colombian relations there is solid ground for understanding. Reasons of history unite us as do the demands of the future. The Colombian people and government, their president, can be sure that they have a friend in me. I repeat to EL ESPECTADOR what I have said so often: I have known Colombia for 30 years. I lived in exile in Bogota and Barranquilla and have many friends there. I expect that during my government, as in the present administration of President Perez, these relations will continue to be fraternal and cordial.

HERRERA THANKS BREZHNEV FOR CONGRATULATIONS ON VICTORY

PA220423Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0011 GMT 22 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 21 Dec (EFE)--Venezuelan President-elect Luis Herrera Campins sent a telegram to CPSU Secretary General Leonid Brezhnev today thanking Brezhnev for his congratulations on Herrera's victory in the recent Venezuelan elections.

"I hope that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples," the Venezuelan president-elect's telegram states, "will continue to develop satisfactorily."

The telegram adds that "my administration's foreign policy will have solidarity, international justice and universal well-being as its principles and guidelines."

Herrera states that he shares with the CPSU leader "the belief that our action must be oriented toward the strengthening of international peace and security."

Herrera, of the Social Christian Party (COPEI), defeated Luis Pinerua Ordaz, candidate of the ruling Democratic Action (AD) Party, in the 3 December presidential elections.

PETROLEUM INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ENDORSES OPEC DECISION

PA212225Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Venezuelan Petroleum Institute President Dr Humberto Calderon (Berni) has reiterated his endorsement of the agreements signed by Venezuela at the OPEC meeting recently held in Abu Dhabi.

According to him, the OPEC countries' decision concerning the increase of crude oil prices was unanimous and calls for a gradual 10 [as heard] percent increase next year.

Concerning the industrialized countries, Calderon said they must make an effort to adopt conservationist policies. He also favors the implementation of a conservationist policy here in Venezuela and a more rational use of resources. Waste must be avoided, measures must be adopted and a policy aimed at preventing waste must be formulated.

GABRIEL LEWIS APPOINTED NEW CANAL AUTHORITY DIRECTOR

PA211806Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1750 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Panamanian President Aristides Royo this morning announced the appointment of Gabriel Lewis Galindo as the new director general of the Panama Canal Authority at the beginning of a meeting of the cabinet and the Council General of State. The president earlier welcomed the new president of the Supreme Court, Gonzalo Rodriguez Marquez, and the 37 members of the legislative branch. Gabriel Lewis Galindo, the former Panamanian ambassador to Washington and ambassador for special missions, is replacing Edwin Fabrega, the architect who has held the post until now. Fabrega asked to be relieved due to the work and responsibility involved in his posts in the canal authority and the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources. The president asked the officials assembled at the presidential palace to support the new director general, a support necessary to face the grave responsibilities we will assume in 1979 as administrators and operators of the first properties which will revert to our country by the new treaties. The new canal authority director general's staff includes Edwin Fabrega, Ricardo Alonso Rodriguez, Fernando Manfredo, Roberto Heurtematte and the ministers of planning, finance and treasury, and foreign relations.

CABINET CHANGES IN 'FIRST DAYS' OF JANUARY RUMORED

PA191818Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Dec 78 PA

[From the "Radioperiodico Conciencia" program with Milciades Ortiz]

[Text] Still unconfirmed are reports that may be tomorrow's headlines. More than one cabinet minister will be changed in the first days of January. The changes will increase the number of rightist elements in the government, especially in the area of labor, where conflicts with leftist labor unions are expected.

PRESIDENT ROYO ADDRESSES WORKERS DEMONSTRATION

PA210340Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The CONATO, the National Council of Workers, which is composed of the leaderships of the three labor centrals of Panama, called for a demonstration at the historic Santa Ana Park at 1600 today. The demonstration was held. It ended at the Presidency of the Republic at approximately 1615. Approximately 4,500 Panama City workers participated in the demonstration. Similar demonstrations were staged in all the provincial capitals at the same time. President Royo received them at the Presidency. He came out and talked to the workers.

[Begin Royo recording] Panamanian workers: First, I want to congratulate you on this sense of unity, which corresponds to some of the slogans that you have chanted here this afternoon. You have shown, the Panamanian workers have shown this afternoon at this demonstration--which we sincerely did not expect to be so large--that they have a great sense of solidarity and unity. [applause and shouts of "unity"] This demonstrates the seriousness of the workers and their unity in the struggle for their conquests and their rights. We want to say to you and to your leaders--who are leading you in an orderly, peaceful and patriotic fashion here at the Presidency--that this government feels a great concern for the workers, that the process of General Torrijos and our government has also struggled for the working class and has fostered the favorable conditions to make the working class strong, respected and dignified in this country.

Consequently, we are also fulfilling what we consider a duty on our part and your right, that is, the incorporation of the working class into the various activities of the government. Therefore, the Panamanian working class is now represented on the National Economic Council. For the same reason, we recently established a National Labor Commission, which includes representatives from the employers, the working class and the government. This tripartite commission will study--and we are certain that it is already studying, and we can say this to the leaders and all the Panamanians who are here--is already conducting the necessary studies not only in relation to Law 95, but on the collective labor contracts, the wage and price policies, the worker education policy and every one of the problems.

This National Labor Commission will conduct its studies, and you are properly represented on this commission, just as other sectors are also represented. Consequently, this government--five and five, there is no minority there, gentlemen [apparently answering shouts about uneven representation from the crowd]--consequently, we are very aware of your concern over Law 95 and the other labor problems. [shouts]

I also wish to tell you that whatever is done with Law 95, whatever is done in this country with the collective labor contracts, whatever is done on labor legislation cannot and should never be the job of one man. This has to be a job on which different sectors converge. We want participation from the government and the workers, but do not forget that the National Legislation Council must also participate in this. There are 37 legislators in a national assembly, legislators who represent an assembly [as heard] in a legislative body of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives.

Consequently, we [shouts from the crowd; Royo interrupts himself]...I cannot continue speaking this way. We are not proposing changes. We are receiving a document, this document which I have just received. I promise to study it thoroughly, together with all the government forces, and to adopt the pertinent and necessary decisions in relation to the working class and the country's economy. This document will be taken into very careful consideration by the government over which I preside. This is the promise which I am making to you this afternoon. Thank you. [shouts] [end recording]

Demonstrators Request Law 95 Annulment

PA220243Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Approximately 2,000 workers asked President Aristides Royo for the annulment of Law 95 during a demonstration which gathered outside the presidential palace. The request was made in a document which was presented to the president and signed by leaders (Phillip Dean Butcher), Julio Cesar Pinzon, Angel Gomez and Ceferino Rodriguez.

In the document, the CONATO [National Council of Workers] reaffirms its criticism of the unpopular law and demands the prompt annulment of it because the law is unable to accomplish that for which it was allegedly created and because it basically abolished the rights and conquests obtained by the labor movement.

Upon receiving the document, President Royo noted that studies are being made on the salary policy, collective agreements and other matters which are of interest to all. Finally, the president promised to thoroughly study the document and to make a decision on it.

JOB STABILITY RECOMMENDED FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

PA211401Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The Panamanian Association of Engineers and Architects said in a letter to President Aristides Royo on 19 December that it is concerned with the instability of government employees, who are indiscriminately subjected to political changes without consideration for their competence or length of service. The association believes that since the government is one of the principal promoters of just employer-worker relations, it should give primary attention to improving the condition of government employees and prevent their dismissal without consideration for seniority and without paying the appropriate social benefits.

The letter, which was signed by architect Raul E. Figueroa, president of the Panamanian, Association of Engineers and Architects, stated that government employees in other countries have the same rights as private employees and are therefore protected by labor laws. It recommended that the government consider applying the Panamanian labor code to government employees in order to provide the stability and social protection which the employees and workers of private companies enjoy. Finally, it said that the association's purpose is to try to end the system of considering government jobs as political sinecures and to give government employees stability and protection so that they may serve the fatherland regardless of political ideology.

SAMUDIO RETURNS FROM LIBERAL PARTY SEMINAR IN GERMANY

PA211341Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] David Samudio Avila, president of the Panamanian Liberal Party, has returned to Panama after attending an international seminar on the theory and practice of liberal policy in Germany and Latin America. The meeting, which was held in Bonn, led to the establishment of closer relations between the liberal parties of Panama, Colombia and Ecuador and those of European countries. During his visit to Bonn, Samudio met with West German Economy Minister Otto Graf Lambsdorff, a member of the German Parliament and high-ranking German Liberal Party leader. Samudio also met with liberal party leaders from Great Britain and Spain.

After his return to Panama, David Samudio said that he is planning to propose the establishment of a pan-American organization on liberal policy and ideology at the next conference of the national directorate, an organization in which liberal leaders and parties would participate to draft the bases of a policy to protect democracy in Latin America. He added that he will call a meeting of the national directorate to determine whether the necessary conditions exist to register the political parties and to determine whether the Liberal suggestions on the proposed decree drafted by the election tribunal have been taken into consideration.

COSTA RICA

CAPTURED NICARAGUAN GUARDSMEN QUESTIONED BY NEWSMEN

PA212233Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1753 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[By Eduardo Castro of ACAN-EFE]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--A new source of friction between the San Jose and Managua governments has come up after 13 [as received] Nicaraguan National Guardsmen were arrested on Costa Rican territory on Wednesday when they were presumably lost in the town of Los Chiles.

This morning, the militarymen were presented to newsmen for questioning. The press conference was attended by Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Lajos Kada, Guatemalan Ambassador Francisca Fernandez, who represents Nicaraguan interests here, and Maria Ester Arrieta, representing OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila.

The Nicaraguans admitted that because of a geographical error, they entered about 2 km inside Costa Rican territory.

Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey emphasized that although the foreign soldiers were far inside Costa Rica and despite rumors that Los Chiles would be set on fire, the Costa Rican police refrained from firing on them.

Yesterday's incident at the border is considered to be a territorial violation but cannot be punished because Costa Rican laws provide no penalty for such actions if a state of war does not already exist.

The Nicaraguans will be returned to their government in the next few hours.

Upon being questioned, the soldiers, members of the Nicaraguan Basic Infantry Training School, admitted that they were arrested in Costa Rica.

The San Jose government will return the arrested guardsmen when Managua so requests through the Guatemalan ambassador. The return will be at the Penas Blancas border point.

They will first be given a medical examination, as ordered by the judicial branch. Blood and urine samples will be taken to establish that they were not tortured or drugged either before or after their arrest. The International Red Cross has also been asked to participate in the medical examinations.

Lt Jaime Lanuse, commander of the arrested patrol, admitted when questioned by the nuncio that he has not been mistreated or pressured during his 18-hour stay in San Jose.

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT HUMBERTO ROMERO TO VISIT MEXICO 18 JANUARY

PA211205Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0119 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Dec (LATIN)--Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero is going to travel to Mexico on 18 January 1979 in response to an invitation from Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo, sources close to the president revealed here today. President Romero will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth.

OIL PRICE HIKE TO AFFECT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

PA 220408Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2348 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Government sources said today that the petroleum price increase recently decided upon by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will cause serious damage to El Salvador's development programs. This country has had some problems as a result of the drop in the price of coffee (its main export product) and it is now facing the increase of the price of the "black gold" it buys from Venezuela.

Eduardo Reyes, economic and social development planning minister, said that there will be a review of the tasks to be undertaken and that the OPEC decision will definitely affect those programs scheduled to begin in mid-1979.

GUATEMALA

GERMAN PRIEST EXPELLED TO EL SALVADOR

PA220006Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1857 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemalan Government Ministry announced today, Thursday, that German priest Carlos Stetter was expelled to El Salvador after it was confirmed that he had participated in political activities here. In addition, it was said that local emigration authorities took the priest to the Salvadoran border and that he is now in San Salvador.

According to the Government Ministry statement, Father Stetter was arrested for being involved in activities foreign to his duties in the northern province of Huehuetenango, close to Mexico. After his arrest, it was said, the preist was placed at the disposal of the office of the director general of emigration, which decided that he had to leave the country.

HONDURAS

RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

PA220010Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0418 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Honduran Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez stated today that relations with Taiwan will not be altered.

Meanwhile, private businessmen have announced that they are willing to make preparations for the establishment of commercial relations with the PRC. This communist country and the United States decided to establish relations in January. This decision will put an end to military and diplomatic agreements between the United States and the Government of Nationalist China.

Palma Galvez stated that on Monday he announced the decision of his military government to the Taiwanese diplomatic mission in Tegucigalpa. Speaking at an impromptu news conference, the foreign minister stated: "We have developed very cordial cultural, commercial and diplomatic relations with Nationalist China and we will continue to maintain them." When asked about the decision of the U.S. Government to break its defense pacts with Taiwan, Palma Galvez noted: "The best judge of this decision by President Carter will be time."

Meanwhile, Humberto Leon, a prominent member of Honduras' private sector, spoke in favor of having Honduras and the other Central American countries initiate commerical relations with the PRC. Leon believes that if the United States has reestablished relations with that Asian nation, the countries under U.S. influence can very well do the same to improve their economies.

DETAINED NICARAGUANS ASK TO LEAVE COUNTRY

PA220016Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2254 GMT 20 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Dec (LATIN)--Dozens of Nicaraguans in detention at military posts in southern Honduras have asked the Honduran Foreign Ministry to allow them to go to other countries and to guarantee their physical safety.

The 50 Nicaraguans being detained at the 11th Infantry Battalion in the southern town of Choluteca made this appeal through the daily LA TRIBUNA.

The Nicaraguans have been accused of belonging to the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). They noted in their appeal that they have spent 3 months in prison in that military post and asked the Honduran Foreign Ministry to authorize their departure from the country for nations whose governments they have asked for protection.

In their appeal, the political prisoners stated: We ask all the committees of solidarity with the pople of Nicaragua to help us overcome our situation. By means of this daily, we appeal to the friendly countries to which we want to go to grant us asylum since this is the reason why the Honduran authorities are holding us. [sentence as received]

BUSINESSMEN VIEW REPERCUSSIONS OF OIL PRICE HIKE

PA211723Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0349 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Honduran businessmen noted today that the 14.5-percent petroleum price increase announced by OPEC will cause an unprecedented increase in all primary [as received] and industrial products.

Local businessmen also said that the state must immediately establish an energy policy to lessen the effects of the petroleum price increase on local consumers.

Gustavo Alfaro, executive secretary of the National Industrialists Association (ANDI), said that he felt that the new energy policy should work to reduce petroleum costs substantially through a more effective consumption policy.

Alfaro said that the Private Business Economic Council had proposed the creation of this energy commission to the military government and had even suggested that it be joined with other commissions of the region.

Nevertheless, the business leader said sharply, even though the situation regarding crude petroleum is extremely pressing, no steps have been taken to establish the commission.

The petroleum price increase had a great impact and caused pessimism regarding the future in all Honduran economic sectors which say that the country is on the verge of an "unprecedented economic disaster."

NICARAGUA

FAO ACCEPTS, GOVERNMENT REJECTS MEDIATORS' 'FINAL PROPOSAL'

Negotiations at 'Critical Point'

PA211545Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua--The international mediation commission, which is trying to achieve a peaceful solution in Nicaragua, last night proposed to the government and the opposition that they sign what the commission describes as a letter of commitment. The document, delivered to the U.S. Embassy, asks the Broad Opposition Front and the ruling Nationalist Liberal Party to accept the proposed plebiscite.

The negotiations concerning a plebiscite to decide whether President Anastasio Somoza should stay in power were at a critical point yesterday, nearly reaching a rupture. Meanwhile, a protest march from Leon, headed by professors and students, was expected in Nicaragua. The negotiations between the opposition and the ruling PLN were suspended after intense and heated discussions.

NOVEDADES: Proposal Violates National Sovereignty

PA211951Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1506 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The semi-official newspaper NOVEDADES announced today, Thursday, that the government has tacitly rejected the international mediation commission's final proposal for a peaceful solution to Nicaragua's political crisis. The proposal was presented on Wednesday evening. The morning newspaper, which is owned by the ruling family, criticizes the proposal on its front page and describes it as "unpatriotic, interventionist and as a violation of the dignity of the republic and the patriotism of Nicaraguans." In red boldface, the newspaper describes the proposals as intervention.

According to NOVEDADES, "in its draft compromise act, the OAS international mediation commission suggests situations that violate the national constitution, while ascribing rights to itself that are alien to the mission of friendly cooperation entrusted to it to help find solution, to Nicaragua's political crisis."

The newspaper adds that by referring to the popular consultation or plebiscite accepted in principle by the ruling Nationalist Liberal Party, the commission is trying to organize, supervise and control the entire electoral process.

President Anastasio Somoza's newspaper feels that with their proposal, the U.S., Guatemalan and Dominican mediators are trying to invade the constitutional government's authority even at the National Guard headquarters. It also points out that the commission wants to exert authority by invading even the National Congress' jurisdiction through hasty constitutional reforms going as far as suggesting the Congress' dissolution and proposing the resignation of the justices that integrate the Supreme Court of Justice. Both of these measures violate the national sovereignty.

NOVEDADES then publishes the full text of the international commission's proposal. The commission's members have told the government delegates and the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) representatives that today, Thursday, they will stay at the Dominican Embassy, where they will receive responses to their new proposal. After making their proposal, aimed at saving the almost-stalled talks, the OAS commissioners are scheduled to leave tomorrow, Friday, for their respective countries, where they will spend the Christmas holidays.

Meanwhile, the FAO is meeting this morning in this capital to study, revise and decide on the OAS international mediation commission's proposal. FAO political commissioner Rafael Cordoba Rivas has already affirmed that in general terms, the mediators' proposal is acceptable. He added that the proposal represents a solution to the Nicaraguan people's crisis and will prevent further bloodshed.

The FAO, he noted, accepts the removal of Maj Gen Jose R. Somoza, acting chief director and inspector general of the Nicaraguan Army, and of Maj Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, commander of the Basic Infantry Training School (EEBI), from the military posts they currently hold.

According to the mediators' proposal, both General Somoza Debayle's older brother and son must be sent abroad on governments posts. The mediators' plan does not mention General Somoza Debayle's absence during the plebiscite, but the opposition would be willing to accept this.

Finally, Cordoba Rivas asked all of the country's opposition forces to join the FAO now and support the opposition coalition's response to the international mediators' proposal.

But Cordoba Rivas' appeal comes at a time when yet another opposition organization--the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, headed by Fernando Aguero Rocha--has officially withdrawn from the FAO. That group is no longer a member of the FAO.

For his part, Alfonso Robelo, another member of FAO's political commission, warned today that, if necessary, the entire opposition coalition will hold two meetings in order to analyze the international mediators' final proposal thoroughly. The opposition leader described the mediators' latest proposal as a broad proposal with some merit, but he also noted that because it is a final proposal, the FAO's response regarding the document is more difficult, more significant and more committing.

Somoza Comments on Mediation Proposal

PA220341Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0252 GMT 22 Dec 78 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--It is not the mediation committee but the parties which rule in the country, President Anastasio Somoza said tonight during a news conference with international press correspondents.

Somoza's reply came when he was asked if the official reply of the government party to the mediation committee would be submitted before 5 January 1979. That day, according to the "final proposal" of the international conciliating group, will mark the beginning of the plebiscite that will determine if Anastasio Somoza will stay in power.

President Somoza revealed that the (official) Nationalist Liberal Party will submit a letter to the international mediators informing them that the party will announce its counterproposal in due time. Somoza implied that his government does not have to submit an answer to the international mediators whenever they decide. He said, however, that he did not consider the talks between the government and the opposition to be broken because if the Liberal Party produces a reply, the talks will continue.

In his provisonal [as received] presidential office, better known as "the Bunker," and accompanied by his secretaries and government spokesman Luis Pallais Debayle, General Somoza said that U.S. Goverrment circles are concerned about a possible conflagration in Nicaragua. He added that such a concern was expressed by Lt Gen Dennis P. McAuliffe, commander in chief of the Southern Command (Panama Canal Zone), during his visit to the presidential office.

PLN Deputies, Leaders Repudiate Proposal

PA220125Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0030 GMT 22 Dec 78 PA

[Text] All Nationalist Liberal Party [PLN] members of the Chamber of Deputies were summoned by President Somoza today in order to officially inform them of the [word indistinct] document. The deputies expressed their complete repudiation of the document and stated that they will never support such a juridical absurdity which goes against the country's constitution. To day the most prominent PLN leaders also referred to the document in similar statements, expressing their repudiation of the document drafted by the interventionist commission.

Foreign Minister Julio C. Quintana said that the Nicaraguan people angrily reject the proposal made by the OAS commission, a proposal which offends the country's sovereignty. He also said that he talked to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Calderon Fournier this morning to inquire about the Nicaraguan militarymen who are [words indistinct]. The Costa Rican foreign minister told him that the accused would appear before the apostolic nuncio in Costa Rica at 1100 and that they then would proceed to repatriate the militarymen.

FAO Accepts Proposal 'in Principle'

PA212021Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2008 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Broad Opposition Front (FAO) today accepted in principle the "final proposal" of the international mediation commission released last night, Wednesday, in this capital.

The mediators' latest proposal includes the separation of Gen Jose R. Somoza and Maj Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, the brother and son, respectively, of Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle, from the military posts they now hold.

The three mediators from the United States, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic also propose that if General Somoza loses the Plebiscite he must resign from the presidency 3 days after the plebiscite results are publicly released. The plebiscite is to be organized, controlled and supervised by international authorities.

Also, "a military official of acknowledged presitige" must be appointed chief of the National Guard. The military post has been held since 1956 by Gen Anastasio Somoza. It is currently held by Maj Gen Jose R. Somoza. President Somoza must then leave Nicaragua until 1 March 1981.

Rafael Cordoba Rivas, a member of the Broad Opposition Front's political commission, said that the 12 organizations of the opposition coalition had accepted the "final proposal."

Nevertheless, since the FAO pronouncement of the mediators' proposal is an affair "of such importance for Nicaragua," the opposition front's plenum will meet this afternoon to issue an official resolution on the subject.

FAO 'Officially' Accepts Proposal

PA220205Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0144 GMT 22 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Broad Opposition Front (FAO) today officially accepted the latest proposal of the international mediation commission contained in the draft compromise act which has been widely publicized throughout the country since last night. The FAO made this historic decision after 2 days of long sessions, which lasted until this afternoon at the offices of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement in this capital.

Group of 12 Scores Latest Proposal

PA212324Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2208 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 21 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The opposition Group of 12 determined today that the "latest conciliatory proposal" presented by the OAS mediation commission to the negotiators of the opposition and the government constitutes a blatant intervention.

The offer made by the mediators of the United States, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic includes several suggestions aimed at prompting the democratic change that the Nicaraguan people have been demanding by supporting the removal of General Anastasio Somoza from power in Nicaragua.

The statements made by novelist Sergio Ramirez Mercado of the Group of 12, which is engaged in a national and international civic struggle against the Somozist government, coincided with those of government spokesman Luis Pallais Debayle, who considered the proposal to be "antipatriotic, interventionist and offensive to the dignity of the republic and the patriotism of Nicaraguans."

Ramirez Mercado said that the mediators have presented a take it or leave it ultimatum to the Somoza government and the Broad Opposition Front in an attempt to become a supra-national authority that is a threat to national sovereignty.

According to Ramirez Mercado, the mediation has become a blatant intervention, with the only difference being that it is not a military intervention as in the past. The proposal is a clear intervention which we must not accept because although the mediation now presents itself as something favorable for the opposition, it was always criticized when it decidedly supported Somozism.

According to the well-known Central American writer, the proposal of the conciliating diplomats and the presence of the chief of the U.S. Southern Command in Nicaragua to meet with Somoza are part of the U.S. pressure aimed at getting Somoza to yield to the proposed plan for the solution of the political crisis. He stated that the Pentagon is now exerting pressure on or is trying to persuade its old friend and proconsul Anastasio Somoza, who has dealt with Yankee diplomatic problems such as the elections of Generals Arana and Molina in Guatemala and El Salvador, respectively.

He concluded by stating that once Somoza is convinced by those who have maintained and armed Somozism for 40 years in Nicaragua that he should accept the terms of the "final proposal," the mediation commission will fully devote itself to disseminating propaganda for the plebiscite, which has already been organized in order to finish off the new kind of foreign intervention in Nicaragua.

The proposal in question received today the acceptance in principle of the democratic opposition and the government's tacit rejection, insinuated in the semi-official newspaper "NOVEDADES," which is owned by Somoza.

Managua Commentary Denounces Proposal

PA220158Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0030 GMT 22 Dec 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The international mediation commission has become an interventionist commission because it proposed a compromise yesterday which represents a full violation of the sovereignty and the constitution of the republic. The international mediation commission, which was one of friendly cooperation, let the cat out of the bag when it proposed a juridical absurdity which includes the expatriation of prominent military figures in the country and some members of the Somoza family. The wild proposal does not stop there. It even suggests that the Supreme Court judges resign. It also states that the commission will be in charge of the elections, completely replacing the electoral branch, and that the Nationalist Liberal Party's field commanders [ingentes de canadas] come to Managua and abandon their men in the mountains. The OAS commission also demanded that the National Guard relax its vigilance and retreat to the garrisons, leaving the country in the hands of the terrorists.

Such a proposal has enraged the Nicaraguan people and has caused uneasiness among the (?sensible) population.

OPPOSITION LEADERS CRITICIZE POPE'S 'SILENCE'

PA211200Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0044 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguans Carlos Tunnerman, a member of the opposition Group of 12, and revolutionary priest and poet Ernesto Cardenal have sent a telegram to Pope John Paul II criticizing his silence in the face of Nicaragua's political crisis.

Cardenal and Tunnerman reminded the pope that on 27 November they sent him a copy of the report issued by the Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission. "Nicaraguan Catholics are surprised by the Vatican's silence regarding the tragic situation of the Nicaraguan people while we see that the Vatican is interested in and comments on many other cases, such as that of Lebanon, the Chilean-Argentine conflict, the fanatical suicides in Guyana and others."

They added that "the Nicaraguan people, most of them Catholic, who have been brutally massacred by Gen Anastasio Somoza's government, also deserve the Vatican's attention, outside of mere statements". They indicated that such statements of a protocol nature were made by the head of the Catholic Church "on the occasion of a reception for dictator Somoza's new ambassador to the Holy See."

MANY REFUGEES REMAIN AT EMBASSIES DESPITE AMNESTY LAW

PA210454Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0003 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 20 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--A total of 82 radicals who oppose the regime of President Anastasio Somoza today chose to remain as refugees in three embassies in this capital rather than resort to the political amnesty granted by the government on Saturday.

However, other Nicaraguans, who sought diplomatic protection because they considered that their liberty and lives were in danger, did resort to the amnesty decree and left the embassies where they were staying.

In order to leave the embassies, the refugees had to sign "special documents," as required, in the presence of the ambassadors stating that they were giving up the diplomatic protection and were returning to their homes under the amnesty.

Forty-six refugees have remained at the Venezuelan Embassy in Managua following the lifting of the state of seige on 7 December and the issuance of the amnesty decree. They refused to leave because they do not trust the government amnesty. Another 25 refugees decided to leave the Venezuelan Embassy and went home.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry revealed that it has granted 25 safe conducts to those at the Venezuelan Embassy. However, it was not reported when those who received the safeconducts will leave for Caracas.

Sources at the Mexican Embassy in this capital reported that 34 persons are still there. These persons sought the protection of the Mexican Government because they claimed that they were being pursued by the Nicaraguan political police. The safeconducts for these persons are being negotiated.

The latest persons to leave the Mexican Embassy were seven members of the Group of 12, who claimed that they did it not because of the government amnesty but because they have a political mission to accomplish.

According to them, the mission includes the creation of a "national patriotic front" which will group the leftist forces, the democratic and nationalist organizations and the labor unions that are struggling "for the eradication of the dictatorship."

There are only 2 persons left at the Colombian Embassy, where up to 200 persons had requested protection in September. The two persons are Emma Josefina Cerda Ampie and her 2-year-old daughter Ana Josefina.

Honduras, Ecuador, Panama and Costa Rica were the other embassies which gave refuge to people who were being politically persecuted. However, according to a Foreign Ministry source, there are no refugees at those embassies.

DEMONSTRATORS BEGIN MARCH DEMANDING INCREASED UNAN BUDGET

PA211210Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0010 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

[Text] The demonstrators who left the city of Leon today ready to support the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua [UNAN] were not able to cover the distance between Leon and the capital. The organizers of the march reported that for this reason, they will spend tonight in La Paz Centro.

The demonstrators are demanding that the government give 6 percent of the budget to the UNAN while the law establishes 2 percent, which is what the government has been providing out of its revenues.

All in all, it must be noted that although Rector Faillos Oyanguren does not know anything about administration, he sure knows how to pull the strings to provoke an apparent agitation aimed at distracting the public's attention from his disastrous administration.

RADIO HAVANA DISCUSSES CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

PA211641Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Dec 78 PA

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] A few days ago, during the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, U.S. President James Carter spoke at a large meeting of high-ranking officials and congressmen of that country. The topic of the speech was, of course, the major role which, according to Carter, the present U.S. Government plays in the world-wide defense of human rights. The U.S. President said that his administration shows its concern for countries which respect human rights by granting them prioity status in U.S. foreign aid programs. He challenged anyone having doubts about this claim to ask the victims, exiles and oppressive governments about the U.S. attitude.

It cannot be denied that Carter's government has paid voluminous lip service to the cause of human rights. Extensive and repeated declarations have not been omitted from the speeches and documents on foreign policy of the present U.S. Government. However, world public opinion is well aware that there is a great distance between these words and tangible reality. Reality shows us that there are a considerable number of persons in jail in the United States precisely for demanding that the U.S. Government respect human rights. Prominent among these political prisoners are Puerto Ricans Lolita Lebron, Rafael Garces Miranda, Irving Flores and Oscar Collazos, who have been in jail for 25 years for struggling for the independence of their fatherland, colonized by the U.S. imperialists.

Also in jail in the United States are the Wilmington 10 and John Harris--who was sentenced to death in a rigged judicial process for defending the rights of U.S. blacks--as well as Gus (Omin) and Dennis Banks, leaders of the Indian movement and strugglers for the rights of this persecuted U.S. minority.

According to a document published recently in New York, many of these prisoners have been the victims of judicial persecution, false charges, jailings, mistreatment and other violations of human rights in the United States.

Aside from the problem of political prisoners, other violations of human rights are committed in the United States. Central Intelligence Agency agents and collaborators systematically violate the rights of U.S. citizens by tapping their telephone conversations, infiltrating social organizations, raiding homes, censoring private correspondence and performing dangerous experiements with drugs on human beings to perfect their methods of obtaining information from prisoners.

Regarding human rights such as the right to medical assistance, education, work and a dignified life, these are so highly rated in the so-called free enterprise society that millions of persons who are underpaid, unemployed and underprivileged because of social discrimination have no access to them.

President James Carter asked that the victims, exiles and oppressive governments confirm the U.S. attitude in this respect. However, the question asked by the Chileans crushed by the repression of Pinochet's fascist junta, the Nicaraguans massacred by Somoza's National Guard, the South African blacks humiliated and assassinated by apartheid and so many other peoples oppressed by imperialism, is: Where do our oppressors and assassins, those who jail and torture us, those who offend and revile us, those who get rich at our expense, get the resources as well as the economic and political support allowing them to stay in power?

It is not necessary to expect this answer from Washington. It is well known by world public opinion, which condemns the hypocritical imperialist rhetoric and demands tangible action that will guarantee respect for the life and dignity of human beings and effectively contribute to the real liberation of peoples.

MACHADO VENTURA WELCOMES URUGUAYAN COMMUNIST LEADER

FL211719Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Rodney Arismendi, secretary general of the Uruguayan Communist Party, has arrived in this capital accompanied by his wife in response to an invitation to attend the festivities commemorating the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution. Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the PCC Politburo, was at the airport to welcome them. Arsenio Rodriguez, official of the PCC Central Committee America Department was also at the airport.

VALDES VIVO RECEIVES MONGOLIAN DELEGATION

FL191744Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Raul Valdes Vivo, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat, has received the delegation from the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] which is headed by (P.S. Baljasalia), member of the MPRP Central Committee and chief of its ideological department. The delegation also met with Orlando Fundora, chief of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation [DOR], and with America Department [officials], both [organizations, DOR and America Department] of the PCC Central Committee. The meetings took place in an atmosphere of fraternal exchange, as corresponds to the close relations of friendship existing between the two parties and peoples.

POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVE HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL211734Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Dec 78 FL

[Text] (Buhadi Mohammed Sadet), member of the POLISARIO Front Politburo and its representative to Cuba, has held a press conference on the results of that organization's fourth congress. The speaker gave an extensive briefing on the measures adopted at the party meeting to strengthen the struggle being waged by the Saharan people against the occupation of its territory. Following the press conference the full-length movie, "The Sahara Is Not for Sale," was projected showing the Saharan people's struggle against the Moroccan and Mauritanian invaders.

COMMENTARY ON NONALINED'S SUPPORT FOR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

FL211318Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Dec 78 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry "Combatants' Political Information Program" commentary]

[Text] Respect for nations' territorial integrity is one of the postulates of the member countries of the nonalined movement and of their natural allies, the members of the socialist community. At their summits the nonalined countries have subscribed to the need to resolve border litigations and other problems through peaceful negotiations. Nevertheless, imperialism, reactionary forces and Maoism stir up these fires of conflict between states and give moral and material support allowing the most barbarous crimes to be committed against the peoples.

The Somali aggression against the Ethiopian people which was encouraged by North American imperialism, Arab reactionaries and had the help of the Chinese militarists is still very recent. In Latin America, Guatemala on more than one occasion has tried to annex the territory of Belize through forceful means. And in Asia the heroic Vietnamese people are victims of Chinese hegemonism which, with the complicity of the Kampuchea regime, violates the border and kills the defenseless population.

At almost all international forums the nonalined countries express their concern over these flagrant violations. They energetically condemn these actions and have made respect for territorial integrity one of their own principles, which is part of the maintenance of world peace. It would not be going too far to state that now more than ever humanity is living in an age which is very complicated and has very great responsibilities, and which includes a serious threat of war.

In the present world too much flammable material has been accumulated, which at any moment can raise a flame of an ill-fated bellicose fire stirred up by imperialism and its reactionary allies. All conscious beings in the world should, above all else, be profoundly aware of the fact that this is a serious threat, and do as much as they can to achieve international detente and prevent a catastrophe befalling humanity--which can be prevented.

As a consequence of the expansionist ambition of imperialism, the world has already in this century been divided up twice by use of force, with its aftermath of destruction and death. Today, respecting borders which have been delimited is a duty of all states. The inviolability of national territory is an unquestioned principle, and it is an obligation to respect it. All actions violating national borders at the present time are very costly to humanity. This is the source of the justice and human meaning of the struggle being waged by the nonalined countries and the socialist community so that territorial borders are respected among nations. The final declarations of the nonalined summits have clearly shown the vigorous support provided by the movement to detente, and their interest in sponsoring cooperation among states. They have also demonstrated their eagerness in extending the policy of detente to all regions of the world and carrying out the decolonization process to its final consequences, and seeing the need for setting up a new order in international economic relations which is just and equitable.

Cuba, being loyal to these positions of the nonalined movement, advocates respect for the borders between countries, and gives its moral and material support to attacked people and to national liberation movements which are fighting for emancipation and protection of their nation's integrity. The combined efforts of the nonalined countries and of the socialist community in this sense constitutes a valuable contribution to strengthening international detente and peoples' desires to live in a world where security and peace reign.

PORTUGUESE COVERAGE OF RODRIGUEZ' VISIT EXTENSIVE

FL211447Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1416 GMT 21 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Reports from the Portuguese capital state that Carlos Rafael Rodriguez' activities began with a courtesy visit to President Eanes at the official residence of the Portuguese chief executive, Belem Palace. Afterward the vice president of the Cuban Council of State was honored with a dinner at Queluz Palace, which was hosted by the president of the Portuguese Revolutionary Council. The cable adds that Carlos Rafael Rodriguez' arrival in Portugal was reported on the front page in all the morning papers of that capital. The Cuban leader's visit, which had been commented on earlier on several occasions since the official announcement last Friday, has been given extensive reportage and photographic coverage along with banner headlines.

DELEGATION IN SPAIN TO SIGN TRADE ACCORD

FL201123Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrizas has arrived in Madrid at the head of a delegation which will continue the negotiations with the Spanish Government which began a short time ago in Havana to sign a new trade agreement between Cuba and Spain. An earlier agreement signed on 14 December 1974 was extended for a 1-year period before it expired at the end of 1977.

HUNGARIAN MILITARY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR HOME

FL201316Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Maj Gen Arpad Papp, chief of the workers' militias of the Hungarian People's Republic and member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, yesterday left to return to his country. Div Gen Senen Casas Regueiro, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and first vice minister-chief of the General Staff, was at Jose Marti International Airport to bid farewell to the distinguished visitor.

The chief of the Hungarian workers' militias was in our country at the head of a delegation from the aforementioned institution which was here in response to an invitation from the PCC Central Committee. Colonels Pedro Altet, chief of the civil defense national staff, and Demetrio Montseny Villa, chief of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Ministry Foreign Relations Directorate, were also at the airport. Others at the airport included Jeno Jakus, Hungarian ambassador to Cuba, and Col Jozef (Banka), army and air attache at that diplomatic mission.

During its stay in our country the Hungarian militias delegation met with Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the PCC Politburo, and they visited economic centers and sites of historical and cultural interest.

JAMAICAN OFFICIAL'S COMMENTS ON COOPERATION NOTED

FL211432Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1408 GMT 21 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Economic, scientific and technical cooperation between Cuba and Jamaica over the last 3 years has included 250 projects in agriculture, education, public health, tourism, sports, culture and other areas. The statement was made in Kingston by Vice Minister of Foreign Relations [as heard] Derrick Heaven on the occasion of the third anniversary this month of the establishment of the intergovernmental joint committee between the two countries. As a result of the public health projects, Cuban doctors and technicians have provided their services to Jamaica since September 1976, and up to the present time the doctors have seen more than one-quarter million patients. The beginning of Cuban-Jamaican cooperation was in July 1975, when Prime Minister Michael Manley visited our country and signed an agreement on this with Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers.